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Fax. No. 001,703,872,9306.

April 21,2004.

USPTO. Attn. Mr. Thomas J.Druan Jr.

APR 21 2004

Unofficial

Dear Sir.

Ref: My application no. 10/042,433. (B.Gopinath)

Your office communication d. April 6,2004.

Received your letter on April 19th and am in the process of drafting a reply. I am sending this fax to indicate my replies briefly and to seek a clarification from you on one point listed last in the fax. I will telephone you on Friday morning so that you would have had time to read my Fax.

1. The marked up copy (with the strike throughs) of the Specs of 24th Nov is based largely on the original specs as published on July 10,2003 which can be verified by comparing the struck through text. I will delete the small portions that do not belong to the original specs, which have crept in by mistake.
2. I am planning to delete the new matter under the heading < Other design variations. including attachment of boards etc >
I will delete the objected reference to correspondence on page 7 of the specs.
3. Claims. I used the phrase < improvements comprising > after studying CFR 1.75 a of Oct 2003, which recommends this method and this has landed me in problems.
I am planning to amend the claims, avoiding the phrase : the improvements comprising. The structures of my invention are unique and the only prior art they have is of pivot action of knife which is beyond patents.

I need clarification on the following issue. I am planning to phone you on Friday morning to get your comments.

Embodiment 3. Device with inclined cutting action page 7 of amended specs, fig.no.7.

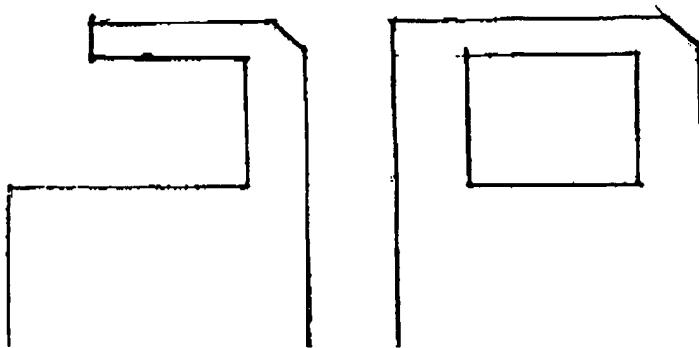
I wish to amend the shape of part 6, guide which is now closed on three sides and open at the left, knife side. I plan to make it closed on four sides, like a rectangle. See Sketch.

This is being done to strengthen it.

There is no change in the way the device operates because of this.

The change has a support in the as filed spec/drawing. No new part is added. Only the existing part is amended to strengthen it.

If you say this will be admissible I will amend the drawing and send a replacement sheet.



B.Gopinath